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UP IRMED  
DE NTE #2319 3451753  
O 111800Z DEC 75  
FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOMAK00//

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

TO BREMER/COVEY/RODMAN FOR THE SECRETARY

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD VIA BLACK PATCH WH52457

TOMAK00

DECEMBER 11, 1975

VIA BLACK PATCH

State Dept. review completed

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT  
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM  
SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

25X1

\*\*\*\*\* WNSR COMMENT \*\*\*\*\*

BEC FLE

NSA & DIA HAS  
REVIEWED

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ICELAND-UK COD WARE AN ICELANDIC PATROL BOAT FIRED ON A BRITISH SUPPORT SHIP TODAY, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS. THIS IS THE FIRST SUCH INCIDENT IN THE DISPUTE AND PROBABLY WILL LEAD TO FURTHER ESCALATION OF THE COD WAR. ACCORDING TO BRITISH OFFICIALS, CALLAGHAN IS NOT PREPARED TO MAKE A NEW OFFER ON THE SIZE OF THE BRITISH CATCH WHEN HE MEETS WITH AGUSTSSON. TALKS BROKE DOWN LAST MONTH WHEN ICELAND AND THE UK COULD NOT AGREE ON THIS ISSUE. REYKJAVIK WANTS TO LIMIT THE BRITISH TO 85,000 TONS, WHILE LONDON INSISTS ON 110,000 TONS. BOTH SIDES BELIEVE IT IS UP TO THE OTHER TO GET TALKS UNDERWAY AGAIN. THE FIRING INCIDENT MAY PUSH THE RENEWAL OF NEGOTIATIONS FARTHER INTO THE FUTURE, PARTICULARLY IF AGUSTSSON USES THE EPISODE AS AN EXCUSE FOR VEHEMENT REMARKS IN BRUSSELS.

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